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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECRET

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RV CABLE

Current rumors regarding a withdrawal of Soviet troops from Austria are probably based on recent Soviet concessions to Austria, such as the relaxation of certain Soviet controls, and on a Soviet desire to trim expenses since they are now paying their own occupation costs. This is reflected in the elimination of the border patrol and control points and in the closing down of minor komendaturas and troop installations. The general trend appears to indicate a consolidation of Soviet troop strength in certain garrison areas such as Amstetten, Baden and St. Poelten.

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